EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE

ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, Public Law No. 103-160, Section 1703 (50 USC 1522), mandates the coordination and integration of all Department of Defense chemical and biological (CB) defense programs. As part of this coordination and integration, the Secretary of Defense is directed to submit an assessment and a description of plans to improve readiness to survive, fight and win in a nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) contaminated environment. This report contains modernization plan summaries that highlight the Department's approach to improve current NBC defense equipment and resolve current shortcomings in the program. *50 USC 1522 has been a critical tool for ensuring the elimination of redundant programs, focusing funds on program priorities, and enhancing readiness.*

Medical and non-medical research, development and acquisition organizations for NBC defense, including the consolidation of all research, development, test and evaluation, and procurement funds for NBC defense have been consolidated. There has been significant progress in the development of Joint training, doctrine development, and requirements generation. Modernization and technology plans have been developed that have begun to show real savings and true consolidation of efforts among the Services. The fruits of these plans will be realized over the next few years as the public law has time to take effect and will result in the increased readiness of U.S. forces.

The objective of the Department of Defense (DoD) NBC defense program is to enable our forces to survive, fight, and win in NBC warfare environments. Numerous rapidly changing factors continually influence the program and its management. These factors include declining DoD resources, planning for warfighting support to numerous regional threat contingencies, the evolving geopolitical environment resulting from the breakup of the Soviet Union, the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and continuing proliferation of NBC weapons. To minimize the impact of use of NBC weapons on our forces, we will require improved NBC defensive capabilities. The DoD NBC defense program continues to work towards increasing the defensive capabilities of Joint Forces to survive and continue the mission during conflicts that involve the use of NBC weapons. NBC defense programs are managed jointly under the oversight of a single office within DoD. However, the unique physical, toxicological, destructive and other properties of each threat require operational and technological responses tailored to the threat.

For our forces to survive, fight and win in an NBC-contaminated environment, an integrated and balanced program is essential. Our forces must have aggressive, realistic training, and defensive equipment that allows them to avoid contamination, if possible, and to protect and decontaminate personnel and equipment, and sustain operations throughout the non-linear battlespace. We must also have the capability to provide medical casualty management. Programs are in place to equip and train our forces to accomplish their missions in an NBC environment. The goal of the program is to equip U.S. forces with the finest available equipment for conducting their missions in the face of NBC threats from potential adversaries around the world.

OVERVIEW OF REPORT

The ***INTRODUCTION*** of this report provides a detailed background of the rationale and purpose for the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program. A more detailed report on the threat from the proliferation of NBC weapons was also published by the Department of Defense in the November 1997 entitled, *Proliferation: Threat and Response*. Intelligence documents tailored to the threat are essential for developing and updating requirements for NBC defense programs. Every NBC defense research, development, and acquisition effort funded within the program responds to a defined or validated threat. The vast variations among the chemical and biological threats and the unique physical, toxicological, destructive and other properties of these threats require operational and technological responses tailored to the threat. Intelligence efforts continue to emphasize collection and analysis of nations' "dual-use" nuclear, chemical and biological industrial capabilities and develop the indications and warning of adversarial use of dual-use capabilities.

CHAPTER 1 describes the accomplishments, processes, and issues related to DoD Chemical And Biological Defense Program management and oversight. Since the program's inception, DoD has made significant progress in improving the overall joint management and coordination of the NBC defense program. *50 USC 1522 has been a critical tool for ensuring the elimination of redundant programs, focusing funds on program priorities, and enhancing readiness.* (This report does not address ongoing plans to reorganize the Office of the Secretary of Defense, as outlined in the Defense Reform Initiative, nor potential impacts on the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program.) Chapter 1 also includes a detailed response to a special Congressional request for information made in HNSC H. Rpt 105-132 (pp. 236-237)—specifically information on Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Biological Warfare Defense program coordination with the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense program (Section 1.4).

CHAPTER 2 provides information on non-medical NBC defense requirements and on research and development programs. Requirements and the status of research and development assessments are described within the framework of the functional areas of NBC defense. Chapter 2 also includes detailed responses to special Congressional request for information made in HNSC H. Rpt 105-132 (pp. 236-237)—specifically information on (1) problems with the Army's M-40 Mask program (Section 2.7), and (2) Equipment for Chem/Bio Quick Reaction Force (CBQRF) (Section 2.6). An overview of the structure and function of elements of the CBQRF are provided in Chapter 5.

CHAPTER 3 provides information on medical NBC defense requirements and on research and development programs. Medical technologies are an integral part of providing individual protection both prior to, during and after a chemical or biological attack. Chapter 3 also includes detailed responses to special Congressional request for information made in HNSC

H. Rpt 105-132 (pp. 236-237)—specifically information on (1) anthrax vaccine production & stockpile issues (Section 3.6), and (2) vaccine development issues (Section 3.3).

CHAPTER 4 provides an analysis of NBC defense logistics posture. The analysis reviews the status of quantities, characteristics, and capabilities of all fielded NBC defense equipment, industrial base requirements, procurement schedules, and problems encountered. Much of the information is based on the recently completed (though not officially validated) model of Joint Chemical Defense Equipment Consumption Rates (JCHEMRATES IV). Additional information is derived for the Joint NBC Defense Logistics Support Plan.

CHAPTER 5 assesses the status of NBC defense training and readiness conducted by the Services. Each of the Services' training standards and programs is reviewed. In accordance with Section 1702 of Pub. L. 103-160 (50 USC 1522) all chemical and biological warfare defense training activities of the Department of Defense have been consolidated at the United States Army Chemical School.

CHAPTER 6 provides information on the status of DoD efforts to implement the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which was ratified by the United States and entered into force during 1997. This chapter also includes a summary of plans and activities to provide assistance to other countries in response to an appeal by another State Party to the CWC, pursuant to Article X of the CWC.

Finally, there are several ***ANNEXES*** to this report. ***Annexes A through D*** provide detailed information on Joint and Service-unique NBC defense equipment, including contamination avoidance, protection, decontamination, and medical programs. Detailed descriptions are provided for systems and equipment that have been fielded, are in production, or under development. ***Annex E*** provides a summary of funds appropriated, budgeted, and expended by the DoD Chemical and Biological Defense Program. One of the successes of the DoD NBC Defense Program has been the consolidation of all DoD NBC Defense RDT&E program funds under six program elements, rather than throughout numerous Service accounts. ***Annex F*** provides a statement regarding chemical and biological defense programs involving human subjects as required by 50 USC 1522. As detailed in the annex, no such testing has been conducted in over two decades and none is planned.

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